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In the Claims:

PROPOSED NEW CLAIM

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12. (New) A ventilation pipe protector adaptable to a ventilation pipe for venting of gas and preventing ingress of animals and debris, comprising:

a tubular sleeve transitioning in diameter to a larger conical neck transitioning in diameter to a still larger hollow head, the pipe protector adapted to be mounted on a top opening in a ventilation pipe such that the hollow head is adapted to remain external to the ventilation pipe, the conical neck is adapted to rest along its transition on the top opening of the ventilation pipe resulting in a low tolerance fit for a variety of ventilation pipe sizes, and the tubular sleeve is adapted to be inserted within a ventilation pipe and disposed radially inwardly from the ventilation pipe forming a gap bounded by the tubular sleeve, the conical neck, and the ventilation pipe;

wherein the tubular sleeve and conical neck comprise a plurality of ventilation orifices for venting of gas which may be trapped in said gap; and

wherein the hollow head comprises a further plurality of ventilation orifices sized to allow venting of gas and to prevent ingress of animals and debris.